

### A VIEW FROM FEW

## AN ORGANIZATION FOR OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

SPACE COAST CHAPTER, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/

MAY 2006

## SPACE COAST CHAPTER, FEW 2005 - 2006 Officers and Committees

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sandy Eliason

Space Coast has had a very busy spring. We sent off our awards to National and Regional, with many thanks to Dawn Partlow, Barbara Powell, Aneta Ott, Marlene Satterthwaite and Helen Kane. We have sent our Annual Report and our Report on Membership to National and Regional, many thanks to Jean Grenville and Karin Biega. Ladies you are wonderful and I truly do appreciate your help. In April, Ellie Miller held a wonderful Membership meeting at the Holiday Inn. Ellie asked each of us to tell the visitors what FEW means to us. Ellie even gave out three new memberships! Great job! We ended the month working the beer booth for the KSC Picnic. The event was fun and I can say that we had some men blushing, because we carded each and every one of them. Great job Vickie! We are starting to gear up for elections and installation in June and plans are underway for our Annual Retreat. Stay tuned for all the details!

We are all so different and share special talents and qualities that only we have as individuals. We are indeed unique. But somehow we blend our talents and treasures together and we do a great job! I've been reading this book that talks about our worst critic. With most of us it's ourselves. To remind ourselves of our magnificence, we can do this little exercise: "Five Things I Like About Myself."

Begin by writing down at least five things that you like about yourself. And remember this is not the time to be modest. If you are having trouble coming up with a total of five items, you know that this exercise can really benefit you. Be sure to include more than your physical attributes on your list, since our bodies are only part of who we are. Continue this process for a week, thinking of five new things you like about yourself everyday. At the end of the week, read the list aloud to yourself while standing in front of a mirror. Allow the mirror to reflect your magnificence. You might feel silly standing in front of a mirror and reading, but if you think about it, the experience might bring a smile to your face and change the way you see yourself.

Jean Grenville

If we can accept ourselves and realize and value our uniqueness it brings out the best in us. We can actually see our full potential. Accept and enjoy the love that is coming to you—love that heals hearts, meets our needs, and makes our spirit sing. See you next month.

Sandy



#### **SUNSHINE**

Eva Coffman

#### Celebrating birthdays in May:

Dawn Partlow	May 16
Maxine Johnson	May 27
Barbara Powell	May 27
Sue Gaines	May 29
Patti Sunderland	May 29



If you notice anyone missing please email Muzette Fiander at Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov

Space Coast Chapter thoughts for a speedy recovery have been extended to Lee Furis.

Please notify me (639-4881) or Becky Fasulo (867-4436 or Rebecca.J.Fasulo@nasa.gov) of any members that have extended illnesses, hospital stays, or news that deserve congratulations.

## 2nd Annual Space Coast Chapter Retreat

We will again this year have a Retreat on June 23 and 24. Last year we tackled the policies and procedures manual and numerous other topics of concern. This year we will be working on continuous improvement and discussing the Bylaws, revisions to the Policy and Procedures manual that should be adopted, RTP 2008 discussion, NTP/RTP costs and Criteria, Chapter Goals for FY07 and many other topics. We are planning more time for networking after the scheduled meetings.

The Outgoing and Incoming Officers and Committees should try to attend as well as other members who are interested.

More information will be sent out by e-mail shortly.

#### NTP 2006

Jean Grenville/Marlene Satterthwaite

Following is text of the April 2006 FEW Press Release regarding the FEW's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Program.

(Washington, D.C.) – Federally Employed Women (FEW) proudly announces that its 37<sup>th</sup> National Training Program (NTP), "New Connections – New Directions" will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, July 17 – 21, 2006 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel. Online registration is now available at <a href="https://www.fewntp.org">www.fewntp.org</a>.

Dr. Bernice King, daughter of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the late Coretta Scott King, will headline FEW's 37<sup>th</sup> National Training Program with a keynote address on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. FEW President Patricia Wolfe said, "FEW is particularly honored to have Dr. King deliver her powerful and inspirational message to its attendees in a city known for civil rights. This will be a special moment for everyone in the audience."

Ric Giardina, President of The Spirit Employed Company, will "book-end" this year's program with techniques for developing a personal style of gentle self-discipline that will increase productivity and sense of fulfillment – with the goal of sending 2,000+attendees home with "New Connections & New Directions." NTP Co-Chair, Billie Jo Benjamin said, "Ric always lifts up his audience and leaves them wanting more."

If this is not enough, FEW will host its first-ever Education/Career Fair in partnership with the Georgia Alliance for Higher Education on Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. FEW is committed to improving opportunities for women employed in the Federal government, and this event will feature colleges, agencies with recruiting information, and other vendors who offer support to the advancement of women in government.

FEW will co-host its third annual Military Awards Ceremony and Banquet with the Department of Defense honoring its sisters in uniform who are serving our nation at this time of war and sacrifice.

Saving the best for last, FEW will again offer more than 150 workshops that have been closely aligned with the leadership competencies identified by the Office of Personnel Management. The training offered is targeted to provide all public, private, and Federal employees, including military personnel, with the tools required to establish and build a successful career and to deliver quality public service. Participants have a unique opportunity to share ideas

and network in a professional environment with thousands of women and men from government, industry, and academia.

FEW is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1968 after Executive Order 11375 was issued that added sex to the forms of prohibited discrimination in the federal government. FEW has grown into an international organization serving over one million federally employed women - both in the military and civilian workforce. FEW's many accomplishments and activities have impacted the Federal workplace and contributed to the improved working conditions for all. For more information of FEW and the NTP, visit the website at <a href="https://www.fewntp.org">www.fewntp.org</a> or telephone 202-898-0994

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Make plans now to attend! Submit your requests to your training coordinators early (by May 26) for a cost savings to NASA, your company or yourself if you are self-funding this worthwhile program. After May 26, the registration cost increases by \$75.00.

Registration books will be mailed out soon. If you are a member of FEW, you will automatically receive a book in the mail.

For more information, visit www.fewntp.org or contact Jean Grenville 453-0226 or Marlene Satterthwaite 867-4105. Workshop information and registration forms are available on this web site.



# GOVERNMENT NEWS & LEGISLATION Charlotte Becker

#### GOP urges price-gouging probe on gas

By Mark Preston CNN Washington Bureau Tuesday, April 25, 2006; Posted: 3:40 a.m. EDT (07:40 GMT)

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- Congressional GOP leaders on Monday formally called on President Bush to launch an investigation into possible price gouging by oil companies, after gas prices shot up nearly 25 cents a gallon in two weeks.

"Anyone who is trying to take advantage of this situation while American families are forced into making tough choices over whether to fill up their cars or severely cut back their budgets should be investigated and prosecuted," House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Illinois, and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tennessee, wrote in a letter to President Bush.

"Therefore, we believe that federal law enforcement agencies and regulators should take every available step to

ensure that all federal laws protecting American consumers from price-fixing, collusion, gouging and other anti-competitive practices are vigorously enforced." (Poll on price hardship)

Hastert and Frist asked Bush to direct the Justice Department and Federal Trade Commission to investigate the rising oil prices and also will request that certain areas be exempt from having to use a more expensive but cleaner blend of gasoline.

One FTC official, though, told CNN that the trade commission can only look into anti-competitive practices and has no legal authority to investigate price gouging.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-California, dismissed Hastert's and Frist's letter as "empty rhetoric."

"With skyrocketing gas prices, it is clear that the American people can no longer afford the Republican Rubber Stamp Congress and its failure to stand up to Republican big oil and gas company cronies," Pelosi said in a written statement. "With record gas prices, record CEO pay packages, and record oil company profits, Speaker Hastert and the Republican Congress continue to give the American people empty rhetoric rather than join Democrats who are working to lower gas prices now."

On average, consumers are paying \$2.91 per gallon for regular self-serve nationally, according to a Lundberg Survey of 7,000 gasoline stations this month.

The price of oil is spiking on the eve of the country's summer vacation season that leads into the critical midterm elections.

April 25, 2006 Lawmaker plans to gut TRICARE feehike proposal By Megan Scully, CongressDaily

House Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee Chairman John McHugh, R-N.Y., plans to gut an unpopular Defense Department cost-saving proposal to raise fees for many of the 1.9 million military retirees eligible for TRICARE healthcare coverage.

During a markup Wednesday of his panel's portion of the fiscal 2007 defense authorization bill, McHugh will propose barring any increases to premiums and enrollment fees until at least Dec. 31, 2007, buying Congress time to study the effects and savings generated by the Pentagon plan.

McHugh also wants to create a commission, possibly consisting of defense health officials and outside experts, to review the military's healthcare structure, costs and benefits, he said in a telephone interview Monday. And he will recommend Government Accountability Office and Congressional Budget Office studies on the matter.

"We're not going to burn retirees with more costs at this time," McHugh said.

## FEMA employees laud suggestions for improved disaster response

By Jonathan Marino jmarino@govexec.com

Employees at the Federal Emergency Management Agency on Monday praised suggestions for improving disaster response made by the Homeland Security Department's inspector general last week, while criticizing what they called short-sighted work by the agency in remedying remaining problems.

"We're going into this hurricane season unprepared," said one FEMA employee, speaking under the condition of anonymity. "We're pretty much at the same place that we were last year."

The employee, a FEMA veteran with experience in disaster management, said plans at the agency - like the 95/95 plan, which would bring staffing there to 95 percent of capacity in 95 days - are short-sighted and will fail to bring the most qualified candidates on board.

The FEMA employee said more contractors have been awarded work, but hiring still lags. Further, the employee stated, thanks in part to a rushed hiring process where some job postings are left open for as little as a week, "inexperienced people are creating more chaos than they are helping."

FEMA was targeted for the lion's share of improvements recommended in the <u>IG report</u> issued Friday; 35 of 38 recommendations address the agency by name.

The report called for sweeping reform at FEMA, recommending that the agency tighten procedures for issuing contracts, and reconstruct its process of handling data internally and its delivery of information to the rest of the Homeland Security Department and to the public. The IG also called upon FEMA to request additional funding if needed and asked the agency to re-evaluate its temporary housing plan.

#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Vickie Hall



#### **KSC All American Picnic**

A special thanks to the following members and friends who helped serve beer at the picnic: Karin Biega, Clara Anderson, Martha Carroll, Barbara Powell, Michele Burch, Sandy Eliason, Charmel Anderson, Donald Jones, Aneta Ott, Becky Fasulo, Lenny Fasulo, Bet Eldred, Helen Kane, and Jim Hall. It was a great day for a picnic and we had lots of good fellowship.

#### **Breast Cancer Awareness**

The Breast Cancer site is having trouble getting enough people to click on their site daily to meet their quota of donating at least one free mammogram a day to an underprivileged woman. It takes less than a minute to go to their site and click on "donating a mammogram" for free (pink window in the middle).

This doesn't cost you a thing. Their corporate sponsors/advertisers use the number of daily visits to

donate mammograms in exchange for advertising.

Here's the web site! Pass it along to people you know. http://www.thebreastcancersite.com/

## The New Orleans Public Library Seeking Book Donations

The New Orleans Public Library is asking for any and all hardcover and paperback books for people of all ages in an effort to restock the shelves after Katrina. The staff will assess which titles will be designated for its collections. The rest will be distributed to destitute families or sold for library fundraising.

Please send your books to: Rica A. Trigs, Public Relations New Orleans Public Library 219 Loyola Avenue New Orleans, LA 70112

If you tell the post office that they are for the library in New Orleans, they will give you the library rate which is slightly less than the book rate.

Please pass this announcement on to others who might want to help!

### FOR YOUR HEALTH

Submitted by Vickie Hall



#### National Women's Health Week 2006

Mark your calendar for this year's National Women's Health Week May 14 to 20. National Women's Health Check up Day on Monday, May 15, 2006 kicks off the week's celebrations. Make plans now to see your doctor and encourage your family and friends to make appointments for checks such as <a href="mailto:m

Community health centers, hospitals, and other health care providers across America will provide preventive health screenings to women. For more information on finding or hosting events, check out the <u>participate section</u> of the official site and help <u>spread the word</u> about <u>National Women's Health Week 2006</u>. For more info, visit <a href="http://womenshealth.about.com/">http://womenshealth.about.com/</a>

The husband said, "Who was that?" The wife said, "I don't know, some woman wanting to know if the coast is clear."

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### May

- 4 International Respect for Chickens Day
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 14 Mother's Day
- 16 FEW Business Meeting, Harbor Del Rio Clubhouse, Merritt Island
- 20 Armed Forces Day
- 29 Memorial Day

#### SPACE COAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Muzette Fiander

This monthly publication is a means of sharing information and ideas. Please send news articles or items of interest for this Newsletter to Muzette Fiander, TA-E1, or e-mail at Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with your friends. And for anyone interested, a Membership Application is attached as the last page.

#### Insight for the Day

Submitted by Vickie Hall

"Focus more on your desire than on your doubt, and the dream will take care of itself.

You may be surprised at how easily this happens. Your doubts are not as powerful as your desires, unless you make them so."

Marcia Wieder Speaker and Author

#### And then a little humor......

A married couple was asleep when the phone rang at 2 in the morning. The wife (undoubtedly blonde), picked up the phone, listened a moment and said, "How should I know, that's 200 miles from here!" and hung up.